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The Princess Royal Notting Hill, London, England

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Rooms from
£190 per night

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8/10

Telegraph expert rating

"A gloriously fun pub with rooms in a charming corner of Notting Hill – the sort of place you'd love to be your local. The restaurant serves moreish Mediterranean plates and rooms have plenty of character – think colourful wallpapers, intriguing artworks and bold headboards. Choose Diana for the freestanding tub."

Telegraph Review



By Lizzie Frainier, ACTING DIGITAL PUBLISHING EDITOR, TRAVEL

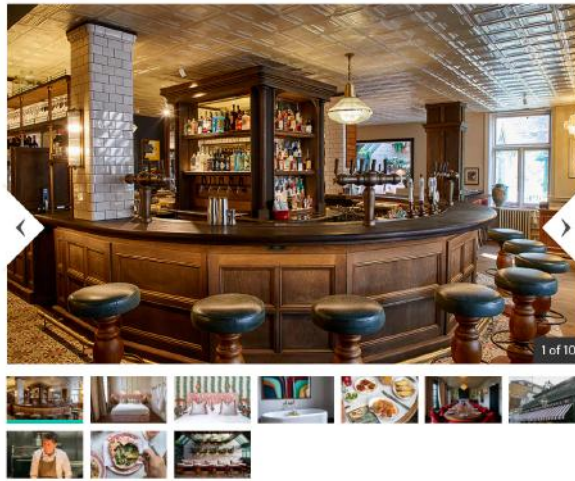
8/10 Location

In a lovely area of Notting Hill, among the tall townhouses of leafy Hereford Road. Nearby restaurants, bars and brunch spots are not in short supply, and are of top quality (hello Ottolenghi, Core, Gold, Granger and Co and so on). It's 10 minutes' walk to Portobello Road for the famed market, Electric Cinema, and some of London's best charity shops. If you're lucky enough to find a copy of Julian Mash's Notting Hill: A Walking Guide in your room, take it with you as you meander the streets; each of the walks listed is filled with trivia and history, bringing the buildings and people of this neighbourhood to life. Three Tube stations are about a 10-minute walk away: Bayswater, Westbourne Park and Royal Oak.

9/10 Style and Character

This design-forward pub has been restored from its Victorian heritage to new glory days, mixing heritage pieces with a distinctly modern style. The forest-green exterior and smart signage outside hints at what's to come: think fun fabrics, exposed brickwork, Mediterranean-inspired tiles, bold artworks and stained-glass windows.

The main 80-cover restaurant is cleverly divided into separate yet open spaces, meaning it feels much more intimate and always buzzy. Pull up a high-backed chair at the central horseshoe bar, and you'll get a front row view of the oysters and Cornish crab on display at the raw bar. There's also a cosy nook with a window into the kitchen, a more pub-like feel at the front with green leather stools and beers on tap, and a conservatory-style room dappled in sunlight with ferns and friends lined on the long shelves. Not to mention the garden designed by Jinny Blon, dotted with olive trees to complement the Mediterranean menu.



7_{/10} Service and Facilities

Service is friendly and helpful, and befitting of a pub with rooms rather than a full-scale hotel. The same goes for the facilities - the restaurant and bar is the centrepiece. There are also a few private dining rooms for special events; one light-filled and with its own terrace, another more snug and cosy in feel with book-lined walls.

- ✔ Bar
- ✔ Restaurant
- ✔ Wi-Fi

8_{/10} Rooms

Quirky patterned wallpaper, plush headboards and funky art give all four rooms oodles of character, especially when paired with historic wooden fittings. Beds are done up in crisp white linens and adorned with statement cushions. They range in size, with one snug room and three larger. Bathrooms feature colourful tiles and fluffy robes. Choose Diana for its fabulous freestanding tub, complete with bubble bath, and found at the foot of the bed under an eye-catching colourful work.

Television, hairdryer, tea and coffee come as standard. Other welcome touches include a stack of glossy magazines, books themed on the location and curated by the Ultimate Library, a Roberts radio and beautifully botanical 100 Acres toiletries.

8/10

Food and Drink

Chef Ben Tish is known for his moreish Mediterranean dishes (he's been at the helm of many great London restaurants), and he follows suit here - albeit with a few more souped-up pub classics thrown in, such as the huge roasts on Sundays. Don't miss the decadent whipped 'nduja on fennel biscuits drizzled in honey, nor the delicate red prawn crudo with rosemary and orange. Sweet and sticky doughnuts filled with lemon curd come with saffron custard for dipping in, and are divine. There's a good selection of wines (both by the glass and the bottle); and refreshing cocktails too (try the pedratonica for white port, tonic and basil bitters).

Breakfast is more relaxed and service slightly slower. There's the usual continental breakfast, full English and classic à la carte items such as pastries and porridge - but you'll most likely want to try the more interesting dishes. The iberico ham and three-cheese toastie with added truffle is as filthy and delicious as it sounds; ricotta pancakes with blood orange syrup taste of sunny spring mornings.

8/10

Value for Money

Double rooms from £190, year-round. Breakfast mains from £10.75. Free Wi-Fi.

Access for guests with disabilities?

All four rooms are up a steep set of stairs so it is not well suited to those with limited mobility. The restaurant and bar on the ground floor do have disabled access.

Family-Friendly?

There is space in some rooms for a cot, and board games and drawing tools are available in the Victoria room for families.

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